

TYPHOON CECIL (23W)

I. HIGHLIGHTS

The fourth significant tropical cyclone to develop during September, Cecil, briefly threatened the Mariana Islands before turning to the northwest and ultimately recurving away from any populated areas.

II. CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

September

200600Z - An area of persistent convection within an extended monsoon trough west of Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands resulted in the first mention of the disturbance in the Significant Tropical Weather Advisory.

210600Z - A Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert (TCFA) was issued based on an increase in convection and convective curvature.

220530Z - A further consolidation of convection near the circulation center and a westerly wind burst led to the issuance of a second TCFA.

221800Z - The first warning was issued based on a satellite intensity estimate of 25 kt (13 m/sec) while the depression was located east of Guam.

230000Z - As a result of continued development of convective curvature and a satellite intensity estimate of 35 kt (18 m/sec), Cecil was upgraded to tropical storm intensity. Post-storm analysis indicated that Cecil actually reached tropical storm intensity about twelve hours later.

241800Z - In response to a satellite intensity estimate of 65 kt (33 m/sec), Cecil was upgraded to typhoon intensity.

271800Z - The final warning was issued on Cecil as it transitioned into an extratropical low.

III. IMPACT

Convection associated with a monsoon surge flowing into Cecil brought badly needed rainfall to Guam as the water level in Guam's Fena Reservoir rose nearly 10 feet (3 m) (Figure 3-23-1).

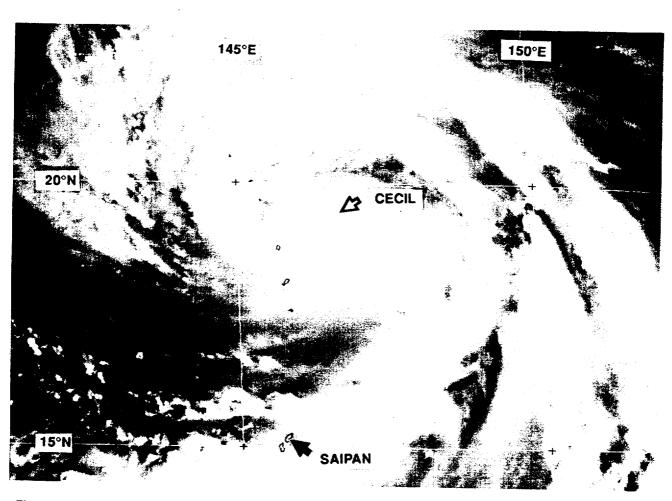


Figure 3-23-1 Although the cloud-filled eye of Typhoon Cecil is located 250 nm (465 km) to the north of Saipan, bands of deep convection are bringing heavy rains to the southern islands of the Marianas (242331Z September visual GMS imagery).